



# The Examiner

Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms

*"Serving with Pride and Professionalism"*

Volume 7, No. 6

Happy Birthday Hospital Corps

June 1999

## People of the Quarter Honored at Ceremony

**A**t a recent award's ceremony held on the hospital's Quarterdeck, some outstanding individuals were honored for their accomplishments and contributions to the command for the period 1 January to 31 March 1999.

The Senior Sailor of the Quarter, was Petty Officer 1st Class Jennifer Behrens from the Laboratory.



HM1 Jennifer Behrens

Her citation read as, "This distinction is awarded to you as a result of your professionalism, dedication, and initiative while supervising in the Blood Bank and Serology Sections of the Laboratory Department.

As a section supervisor, you displayed superior organizational abilities by arranging the Blood Bank and Serology Sections to comply with the accrediting agency requirements. Your competent technical skills were instrumental in attaining a successful score on College of American Pathologist proficiency testing in Serology and Transfusion

Medicine. You completed the Defense Blood Standard System validation test cases, meeting the timeline set by BUMED, making Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms Blood Bank one of only six facilities out of 21 laboratories Navy-wide to have completed Computer Based Training ahead of schedule. Your dedication and initiative allowed the lab to begin parallel testing, making Twentynine Palms one of the first three blood bank facilities Navy-wide to do so. As a result of your efforts, Marines and their families have access to superior blood transfusion services."

When asked about how she felt about being selected as the Senior Sailor of the Quarter, Behrens commented, "I appreci-

ate the lab officers having faith in my ability as an advance lab technician and for selecting me to represent the Lab in this board. I feel honored to have been selected as the Senior Sailor of the Quarter."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Chad Johnson from the Physical Therapy Clinic was selected as the Junior Sailor of the Quarter.

His citation reads as follows, "Demonstrating a sound work ethic, you have set yourself apart from your peers and have become an anchor for the Physical Therapy Department. Your dedication to duty, drive for improvement, and exceptional demeanor have allowed you to demonstrate rare insight and competence. You revised and updated

*Please see PEOPLE on page 10*

## From HM1 to MSC Ensign

By HM3 Donna Tenney  
Staff Writer

**I**magine walking around and saluting all officers that you see. And your fellow peers saying, "Hey, HM1, how are you today," to being saluted by your peers, and being addressed as "Sir."

Well this story is now a reality to the former sailor we know as HM1 Kyle Cipra, from the Physical Therapy Department. He was recently selected for a Medical Service Corps commission under the Medical Service Corps Inservice Procurement Program for Health Care Administration.

The good news is that he was recently commissioned as an Ensign, the unfortunate news for the rest of us is the fact that he will be leaving for OIS in Newport, Rhode Island and then will be assigned to the Naval



Ambulatory Care Center in New Orleans.

His positive attitude and willingness to help those around him will be truly missed. Congratulations to the Navy's newest Ensign, as it is well deserved.

*People are the difference*

*See page 2*

*Routine is excellence*

*See page 4*

*Hard Chargers*

*See pages 11 & 12*

*From the Desk of the CG...*

# People make the difference

**Brigadier General C.L. Stanley**  
**MCAGCC Commanding General**

**A**s we enter into the summer months, the Combat Center will begin a ritual that typifies the busy season of moving. No coincidence, either. Experience has shown us that the summer months are our best months for moving. Children are out of school and vacation periods can be used to ease the transition into a new home.

Most people will join our MCAGCC family without fanfare. Only a couple of people, literally, will be greeted by parades or will be recognized formally when they depart. Some will be shocked to receive orders here. It will take a while for many to adjust. Some never do.

*The specialness of home has more to do with the people than with where it is. Remove the people from the equation...even homes won't be the same.*

If you've been aboard MCAGCC for any length of time, you've heard the stories that don't paint a pretty picture of this place, "the best time to bring your family into the Combat Center for the first time is at night;" or "the road leading into the base is lined with desert flowers watered by the tears of spouses seeing the desert for the first time."

But it's not the Combat Center and its remoteness that I'm banking on to reveal the beauty of the Hi-Desert. Look around you...I think you'll find the magic of our desert oasis is in the people.

It's so easy to overlook what makes any place special. Think about it for a second. Most of us don't come from here. Most of us aren't even from a remote region of the United States. Quite frankly, if most of us were from a remote region, then where we are from wouldn't be a remote region anymore. The one thing we all have in common, however, is our family roots. Roots that tap deeply into our psyche. Roots that shape the way we think and act.

The specialness of home has more to do with the people than with where it is. Re-

move the people from the equation...even homes won't be the same.

I believe most people figure that out, eventually. I'm just a little concerned about those few members of our MCAGCC family; the ones who never felt the magic of being genuinely cared for or loved while living here. They're missing something, and so are we. We will most assuredly miss their special talents, if we aren't able to connect with them.

What I'm referring to here is reaching out to people in a way that goes beyond the strict interpretation of rank and station in life. Sometimes we get so wrapped around the axle on things like chains of command and protocol, that we lose sight of the most important and precious aspects of life...caring for and respecting each other.

When you genuinely care for people, you do things, almost, without thinking. Things like smiling or genuinely greeting one another and conveying our unconditional support, while respecting their rights for independent thought and freedom of thinking. When mutual respect is involved, people are less apt to argue. People who respect each other actually listen to each other, and even if they might disagree with each other, they do it in a way that is respectful...rank has nothing to do with it.

I'm merely scratching the surface on an aspect of life that is absolutely critical for survival. No matter how hard or taciturn a person may appear to be on the surface, the truth is...they have a genuine need to be loved. Use whatever terminology you're comfortable with, but the end state is irrefutable. Knowing that you are a part of something that gives you unconditional acceptance and love, even when all is not perfect, makes life a whole lot better. Why should life at MCAGCC be any different?

Some people say that this remote region of the United States is depressing. I say look again...people make the difference. Yes, it can be said that the road to the Combat Center is lined by desert flowers watered by the tears of new arrivals. But if you look closely, you will see that desert flowers line the other side of the road as well. These flowers are watered by the tears of many who were leaving good friends and good times behind. Isn't that what families are all about...special people in our lives?



**Brigadier General C.L. Stanley**

Remember, it's not just the location that makes MCAGCC, it's the people we're with...people make the difference.

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The **EXAMINER** editor would like to thank all those who participated in this edition.



*From the Desk of the CO...*

## Routine is excellence here

**Y**ou may have noticed that we have had a lot of VIP visitors to the Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms lately.

In the past few months we have enjoyed visits from General Krulak, the Commandant of the Marine Corps; Lieutenant General Fulford, the Commanding General, Marine Forces Pacific; Vice Admiral Nelson, the Surgeon General of the Navy; Mr. Cuddy, the Assistant Chief for Resources Management/Comptroller of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and the Force Master Chief, Master Chief Weldon, just to name a few. You may have also noticed that we didn't change our routines, or have special activities for any of our visitors. In each case, we welcomed our visitors to show off our normal daily routine.

I feel confident about doing that because you do such a good job day in and day out. I know that it becomes very routine for you, but please do not underestimate how impressive you are in performing your military and health care duties so well. Our visitors are universally impressed as they tour the facility and see all of you in your workspaces, diligently delivering on the promise of excellent health care for our beneficiaries. You never fail to make an impression!

June is the anniversary month for the Hospital Corps...101 years! Please take the time this month to appreciate the skills and knowledge you have learned in the Navy, the extraordinary privilege that is ours to apply those skills in taking care of military families, and how lucky we are to work with



*Captain Joan M. Huber, NC, USN*

our talented shipmates, colleagues and friends. Well done. I am proud to show you off. Bring on the VIP visitors!

## Primed for saving money and health for DoD retirees

*By Dan Barber, Public Affairs Officer  
Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms*

**T**he retired Marine survived Vietnam, the Marine Barracks bombing in Beirut, the invasion of Grenada and the Gulf War... but now in retirement he faces yet another challenge.

That challenge is to his health and his financial well being.

Master Sgt. John Q. Smith thought his health care would be taken care of after his retirement, so he didn't opt for the health insurance his new employer offered. Then the hospital at March Air Force Base where he and his wife went for their routine health care closed down.

Smith attended the TRICARE briefings before the hospital closed, but he thought that he'd already earned his health care with the military. He wasn't going to pay out one dime for a TRICARE Prime insurance premium. Besides, there was still the regular TRICARE Standard and he was healthy and fit.

Then one day Smith started having chest pains and shortness of breath so he had to make a visit to a civilian hospital emergency room.

He survived that visit, and his share of the hospital bill only came to \$2,000. The bad news was he needed immediate heart

bypass surgery.

He tried to get into the Camp Pendleton hospital, but because he was not in TRICARE Prime there was no space available. Smith was advised to use his TRICARE Standard or Extra benefit and use a network civilian provider — his only option.

Smith found a cardiothoracic surgeon and a hospital in the TRICARE network. The cost for surgery and hospital stay of six days — \$22,285, cost for the surgeon \$8,000 for a total cost of \$30,285.

Fortunately for Smith he would only have to pay a portion of this cost, \$360 per day or 25 percent of institutional costs, whichever turned out less. In Smith's case his hospitalization cost him, \$2,160. Then he had to pay 25 percent of the surgeon's bill, another \$2,000.

Total cost to Smith for this medical episode, including the original emergency room visit, \$6,160. As stated earlier, Smith didn't think he should have to pay a premium for his medical care through TRICARE Prime, so he didn't bother.

If Smith had signed up for TRICARE Prime the charges for this medical episode would have been \$30 for the emergency room and \$11 per day for hospitalization and surgery — total bill \$96.

If Smith had signed up for TRICARE Prime the money he saved would have been

more than enough to pay his health care premium for the next 13 years.

The above figures are estimates, but close to what an actual case would cost, based on a "global package" for heart bypass surgery and charged to a managed care program.

The retired Marine is a fictitious character; however, the story is the same for many military retirees from all branches of service. They thought that if they served the required number of years for retirement, then their medical care would be taken care of for the rest of their lives. For many the story is the same, they feel the government has broken its promise for free health care for life for them and their families.

The fact is that health care has always been provided to retirees (on a space available basis). However, with the Base Realignment and Closure action, much of the space available health care has disappeared for retirees. This is one of the primary reasons for the implementation of the TRICARE program.

If a retiree is fortunate to live near a military hospital they may have the opportunity to enroll in TRICARE Prime to that hospital as their Primary Care Manager. If the retiree lives near a closed facility, or away from any military base, then they can enroll in TRICARE Prime and select a health care provider near their home.

*Please see PRIMED on page 11*

## Teach Your Children Well

By Lieutenant Daniel Dudley, CHC, USNR  
Naval Hospital Chaplain

Parents can and should be the greatest teachers that we will ever have. We remember a great deal of the wisdom passed down by our parents. Some are worth storing in our memory and others I am not so sure of.

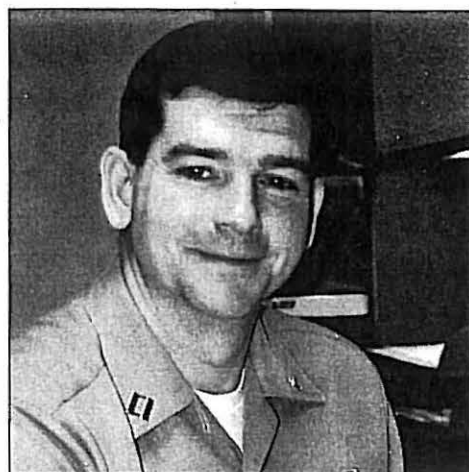
"When I say no, I mean no." "I'll tell you why, because I am your father that's why." "As long as you live in my house, you will live by my rules." "If all your friends jumped off the Brooklyn Bridge, would you too?" "I know it's your game, but right now your uncle and I are playing." "What do you want a pet for, you have a sister." "It's either you or the gerbils, and I am leaning towards the gerbils." "If you fall out of that tree and break your leg, don't come running to me."

This is just a sample of parental teachings. Moms and dads are the most influential people in the life of a child. G. K. Chesterton, in his biography, recalls his early

childhood playtime that revolved around cardboard figures. In this imaginary world was the one who held the golden key, He said "I always thought that this figure was my father because he was always unlocking for me mysteries and wonders." We are constantly teaching and influencing our children and our children's children. What an awesome responsibility we have as parents and grandparents.

Douglas MacArthur said that he was best known as a soldier, but that was not his most important work. His most important work was being a father. Being a soldier dealt with destruction, but as a father he was in the business of building. He recalls the most important time he ever spent with his sons was when they would kneel and pray daily the Lord's Prayer.

A News Week article reported that middle class American fathers spend an average of 15 minutes to 20 minutes per day with their children. In many cases even if they are present physically, they are absent relationally. This may give some insight into



Lieutenant Daniel Dudley

a study done by a college professor who did a careful 2-year study that asked children, ages four to six, which do you like best your daddy or your television. 46 percent of the children preferred the electric baby sitter.

Moses knew well the importance of parental teaching when he addressed the Jewish people in the 6th chapter of Deuteronomy. The sum of his teaching was; as you go to the Promise Land you must diligently teach your children and your grandchildren the three-G's, God, grace and guts.

Once again Mother's and Father's Day have been celebrated though out our nation. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that our children are this countries greatest asset. The future of this great nation rests on them. Many times in our busy lives our children get brushed aside. Save some space in your day planner for some quality time with your children. The more time we spend nurturing and tending the field now, the richer the harvest in season.

### Ellison Daughter

Petty Officer 1st Class Davey and Julie Ellison are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Laura Anne Ellison who was born at Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms, Calif. at 8:28 a.m. April 30, 1999.

Laura weighed six pounds nine ounces at birth.

### Corpuz Son

Petty Officer 3rd Class Divina Corpuz and Bong Corpuz are proud to announce the birth of their son, Nathan E. Corpuz who was born at Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms, Calif. at 4:30 p.m. May 21, 1999.

Nathan weighed seven pounds ten ounces at birth.

## Hail and Farewell

### Welcome Aboard

Lt.j.g. P. Patillo	HM3 K. Lemire
Lt. Cmdr. Gauraon	HA J. Echon
Lt. D. Sikkink	HR O. Lopez
Lt. R. Sanders	HM1 V. Jong, Jr.
Lt. V. Hayward	HM2 M. Slingerland
Lt. E. Wilbon	HM3 M. Johnsen
Lt.j.g. D. Howard	HA A. Nelson
HR J. Heaphy	HR T. Willis
HMC R. Williams	MS3 C. Garcia
MS3 J. O-Valenzuela	HM2 D. Carter
HNK. Penaflor	HN R. Damo
HM1 J. Morris	HR J. Villa
HN P. Henderson	HA K. Ezomoghene
HN E. Bunda	HA G. Saucedo
HN O. Strong	HN C. Holland
FC2 K. Slaughter	HR P. Bunmeema
HM3 S. Cerreta	SK1 S. Oseguera
HN K. Osorez	HA G. Dumpit
HN G. Santos, Jr.	HR C. Ball
HM3 C. Breedlove	HA T. Riesche
HN1 S. Crowder	HM3 A. Contreras
HN M. Bjork	HM3 L. King
HN M. Blanco	HN A. Caldejon
HM1 B. Shaffer	

### Farewell

Lt. Cmdr. K. Welker	HM2 J. Patterson
Lt. Cmdr. P. Sleichter	MS3 M. Piotrowska
Lt. Cmdr. D. Hightower	HM2 R. Locquiao
Lt. Cmdr. R. Braswell	HM3 K. Kocienski
Lt. Cmdr. G. Pearce	HM3 R. Brooks
HM3 D. Wilson	HM3 O. Fregoso
HM3 M. Glasscock	HM3 D. Sestito
HM1 F. Chapoco	HMCS B. Maners
HM3 T. Glasscock	HM3 C. Jacko
HM3 L. Nay	HM3 A. Love
HN T. Triplett	HM3 N. Slingerland
HM1 J. Suba	HM3 L. Fry
HN T. James	HMCM R. Bettis
HM1 D. Hobbs	HM3 V. Smith

### New Family Members

#### Hornbeck Daughter

James L. and Junko Hornbeck are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Jamine Masako Hornbeck who was born at Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms, Calif. at 8:08 a.m. May 20, 1999.

Jasmine weighed six pounds, six ounces at birth.

## Command Master Chief, Departing

By HM3 Donna Tenney  
Staff Writer

We all know that with the life-style of the military person comes the constant rotation of those we come to know as co-workers, friends and family.

This applies to everyone, including the Command Master Chief. Starting June 18, HMCM Robert Bettis will be detached from Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms and on his way to be the Senior Enlisted member at Branch Medical Clinic, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Bettis has been at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center since June of 1996 where he spent a year at FMF Personnel before assuming the position of Command Master Chief at the Naval Hospital in June of 1997.

When asked how he felt about leaving, Bettis stated, "I've enjoyed my tour here. We've got a great crew and I'm really going to miss the people."

## Honest to Goodness Honorary Desert Rats

*Petty Officer 3rd Class Christina Hunt, right, Senior Chief Beverly Maners, below, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Monika Piotrowska all receive an Honorary Desert Rat Certificate from Captain J.M. Huber, commanding officer, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms.*



## Letters...

### Thank you

*Dear Captain Huber,*

I am certain that you do not remember me by name, but I am the retired Marine that was suffering periodic infection in the knee area and had been referred to physical therapy with a knee that was draining.

Becky from the Navy Hospital Physical Therapy Department had mentioned my problem to you and in turn, I was contacted by Dr. Larcomb who in turn had Dr. Sanchez look at it. It resulted in surgery and undissolved sutures were the problem. Once removed, the healing process has taken over and it has done real well.

I wanted to choose this opportunity to say thank you to you and your staff for the concern and the professional treatment. They will always remain number one.

*Sincerely  
Bob Singleton*



# Happy 101st Birth

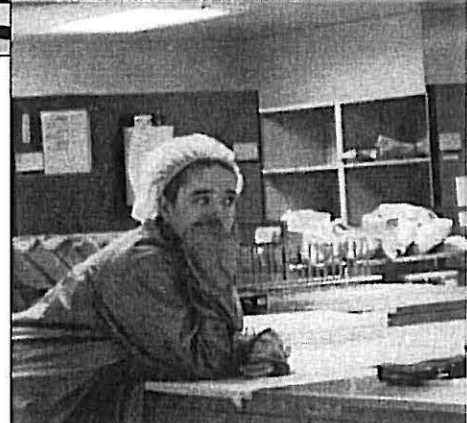
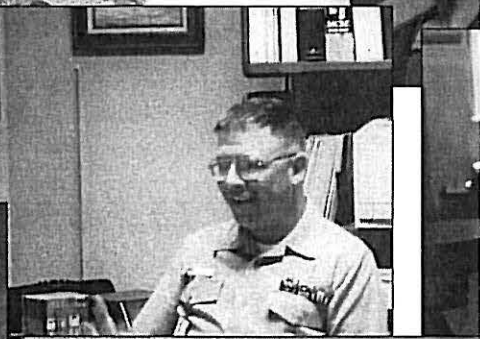
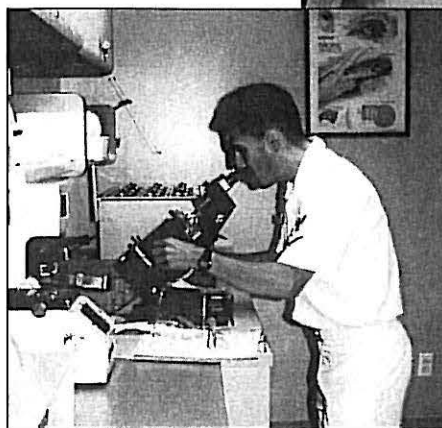
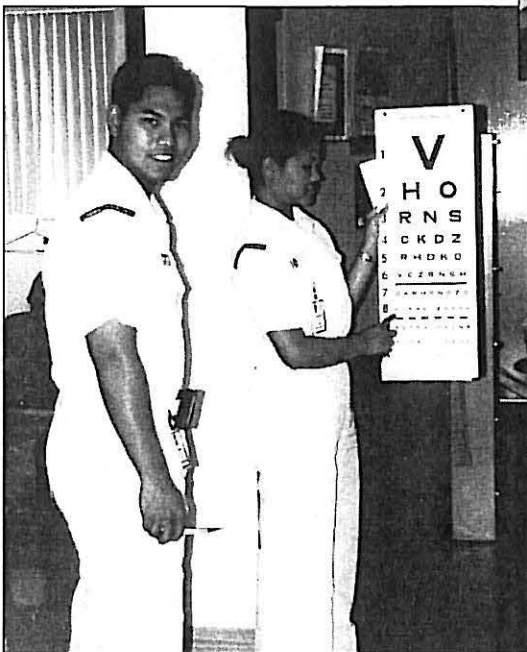
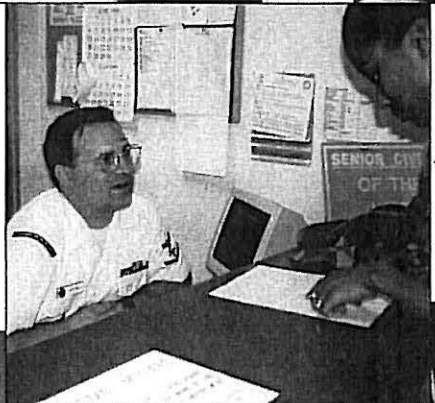
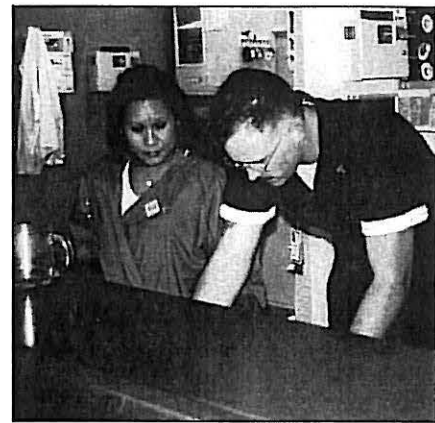
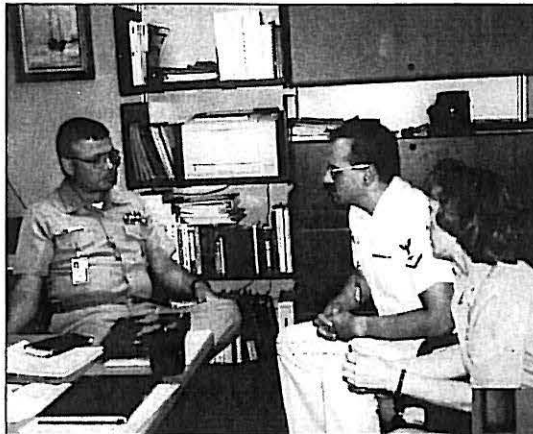
## 101st Hospital Corps Celebration

The Hospital Corps is turning 101 years-old this year and the personnel stationed aboard MCAGCC have been busy planning the Birthday Celebration.

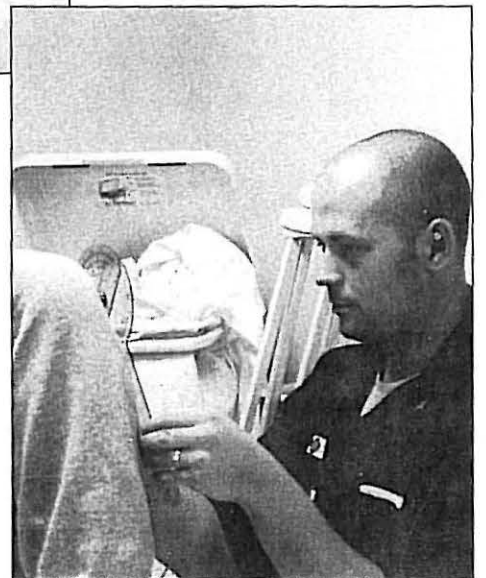
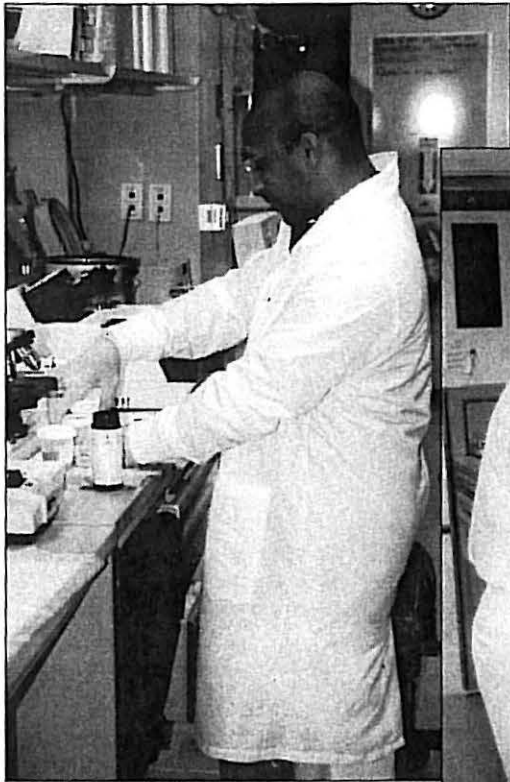
Committee members have been spending a lot of time raising funds for this year's festivities through food sales, a golf tournament, Jail n' Bail, car washes, and pies in the face.

The formal ceremony will be held at 9 a.m. June 17 by the flagpole in front of the hospital. The guest speaker will be, retired Master Chief Robert E. Bush, a Medal of Honor winner, with the cake cutting ceremony to follow.

The birthday celebration will be something different this year. It will be June 18 starting at 5 p.m. at Smith's Ranch. A BBQ dinner will be served, a no host bar, and dancing with a DJ throughout the night. What better way to celebrate a birthday but with a party.



# lay Hospital Corps



# Girl Scout Troop Performs Community Service Project to Benefit Patients

By HM3 Donna Tenney  
Staff Writer

We have all heard of the wonderful things that Girl Scouts perform, but sometimes are not aware of how it can affect the hospital setting.

Local Girl Scout Troop #618 recently completed their community service project by donating hand made teddy bears to the Multi-Service Ward with the purpose of distribution to all children who become a patient on the ward.

Community service is recommended to teach the value of giving or contributing to their community. It also allows the girls to give back to the individuals and companies that have supported the Twentynine Palms Girl Scout unit. Most groups help with food drives or shelters, but Troop #618 wanted to do something unique.

Each girl made five teddy bears to give to the Multi-Service Ward, in hopes that these bears would help what is sometimes a very traumatic experience, a lot easier to cope with.



Junior Girl Scout Troop #618 back row, left to right, Vickie Kummerfeldt, leader; Allison Patch; Heather Johns; Robin Patch, leader; Cmdr. Anderson. Front row, left to right, Tamra Kummerfeldt; Hillary Patch, Brownie; Emily Rich; Chelsea Engle; Lauren Frisbee.

## Future Health Care Providers visit hospital



It's hard to tell who is having more fun during this tour... the visiting students or hospital staff members.





## Here's To Your Health...

# Fitness Hurdles and possible solutions

**T**he mind is a wonderful thing. It can talk us into (or out of) our best resolutions, including our desire to become more physically fit. If you've been meaning to "get fit" but have yet to put your plan into action, it may be that you've developed mental "hurdles" that are getting in your way. If you recognize yourself in the following situations, try our tips for jumping those hurdles and getting on the track for a healthier, more physically fit life-style.

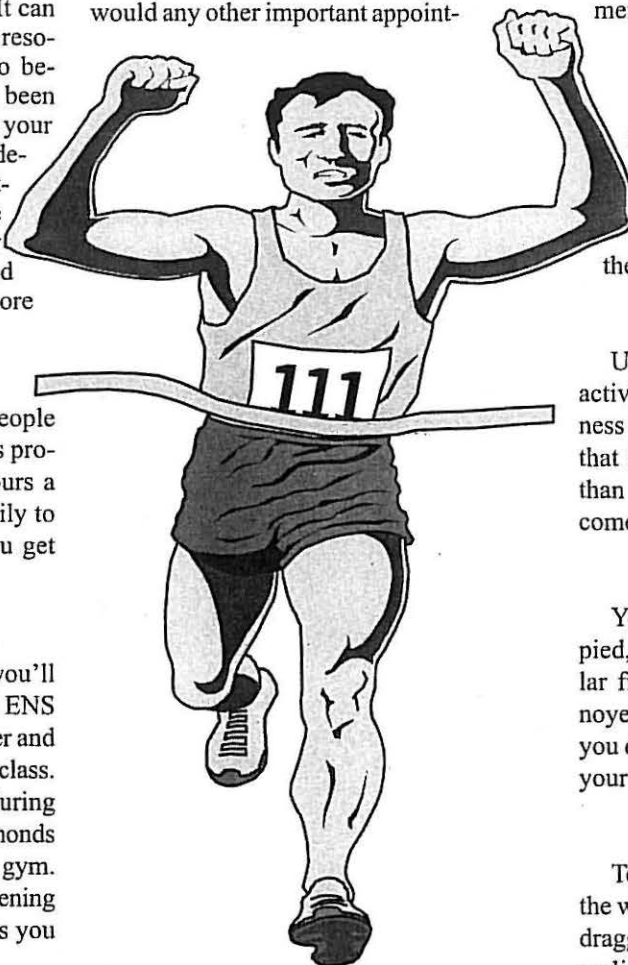
### **Hurdle: No Time**

One of the most common reasons people give for not following a regular fitness program is lack of time. "I work 60 hours a week." "I have a full-time job, a family to care for—when can I exercise?" You get the idea.

### **Solution: Setting Priorities**

When you make fitness a priority, you'll find the time. Get up early and join ENS Cherry's remedial program or Lt. Baker and Petty Officer 3rd Class Avery's Tae Bo class. Take Chief Jackson's step aerobics during lunch. Join Petty Officer 3rd Class Edmonds in her evening step aerobics at the base gym. Do calisthenics while watching your evening TV program. Schedule fitness time as you

would any other important appointment.



### **Hurdle: Old Habits**

When it comes to fitness, old habits—like inactivity—can stop you in your tracks before you ever get started. Habits can be hard to break, but understand that habits are learned and they can be relearned.

### **Solution: Take Action**

Understand that the only antidote to inactivity is taking action. Whatever your fitness resolve is, do it just once. You'll find that it's a lot easier (and more gratifying) than you thought. Soon, activity will become your new "habit."

### **Hurdle: Giving Up**

You've been ill, busy, otherwise occupied, and you've stopped doing your regular fitness activities. You feel guilty, annoyed with yourself. You're convinced that you don't have the "willpower" to continue your resolve.

### **Solution: Think Positive**

Temporary "backsliding" isn't the end of the world. It happens to all of us. Don't get dragged down by negative thinking. Rather, realize that you slipped up, it's okay, and you can begin again where you left off. Then, do it.

*Source: Parlay International*

## **PRIMED....**

*Continued from page 3*

Another argument many retirees have about the TRICARE program is the restrictions placed on them in selecting their physician of choice. Many Health Maintenance Organizations today require patients to see only their network physicians. The military health care system has always had this requirement.

Those retirees who wish to pick any civilian doctor they wish, still have that option; however, the government is not going to pay the full bill. Those wishing to exercise this option will have to use their TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra benefits to receive any help on the bill.

Retirees' fortunate enough to enroll to a military hospital as their primary care manager can now enjoy being seen by health care

providers from a single team. This provides a benefit of continuity of care for the retiree.

Retirees and those on active duty who are preparing for retirement should really take a good look at the TRICARE Prime benefit. As compared to civilian health care plans, the military's plan truly does save money. The annual premium can be paid in one lump sum, or in quarterly payments.

A recent change allows retirees to now pay their premium out of their retirement pay on a monthly basis.

Those wishing to participate in the program do need to take action to enroll; the choice is up to the individual retiree. Full explanation of benefits and enrollment to the program can be obtained at the nearest TRICARE Service Center.

### **TRICARE Tip...**

Tired of paying high annual deductibles?  
Call 1-800-242-6788  
for information about  
deductible-free health  
care under  
TRICARE Prime

## PEOPLE...



HM3 Chad Johnson  
*Continued from page 1*

the exercise protocols at the base's West Gym Annex, allowing for improved rehabilitation programs. Your enthusiasm for accepting new challenges and responsibilities has allowed you to perform successfully as leading petty officer, diligently maintaining the smooth function of three physical therapy annexes. You have accurately maintained and operated an OPTAR of more than \$26,000, researching and procuring new state-of-the-art equipment that enhanced the rehabilitation capability of the department."

Johnson stated this about being selected, "It's nice to be selected and recognized by fellow peers."

Senior Civilian of the Quarter was awarded to Vickie Kummerfeldt from the Laboratory Department. The citation stated as follows: "Assigned as the Laboratory Department Quality Assurance Coordinator, you took on the task of ensuring that all areas in the laboratory were in compliance with federal and local agencies. The numerous hours you devoted to conducting an on-site inspection on the quality of services and adequacy of equipment resulted in a more positive work environment. You were instrumental in the implementation of the new Defense Blood Bank Standard System version 3.0 by assisting in training, validation, case study analysis, and ensuring that all the standard operating procedures were reviewed. The laboratory has greatly benefited from you high level of professionalism and through your advanced knowledge and mastery of medical technology theory and practice. This has increased the quality of laboratory services offered to Marines,

Sailors, and beneficiaries."

After being selected, Kummerfeldt stated, "It's an honor to be selected, and I didn't expect to take the board. I'd like to thank the lab officers that put me up for it."

Stephanie O'Loughlin from the Transcriptions Office was selected as the Junior Civilian of the Quarter. Her citation reads as such: "Assigned as an Office automation Clerk/Medical Transcriber for the Patient Administration Department, you were responsible for processing over 15,000 lines of complex medical and legal terminology data for medical records. You volunteered to be the command Ambulatory Data System (ADS) Coordinator, monitoring and troubleshooting the scanning and coding of

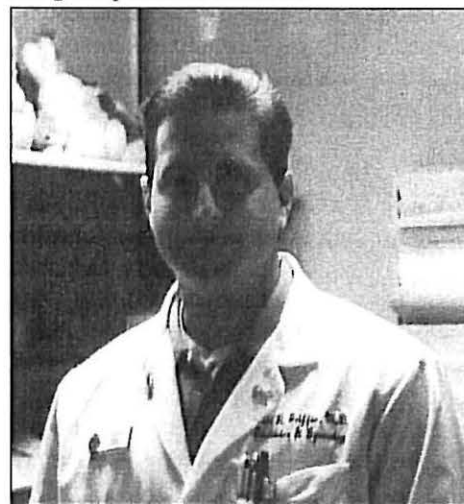


Vickie Kummerfeldt

over 30,000 ADS sheets a year. In addition, you created and maintained over 20 clinic specific ADS "Bubble Sheet" formats. This included developing custom sheets for specific patient encounters and updating coding practices as they evolved. Your diligent efforts ensured the timely processing of the ADS "Bubble Sheets" which positively impacted the enrollment-based capitation budget for the future fiscal year. Demonstrating superior teamwork skills, you also trained Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms and Branch Medical Clinic China lake staff on ADS and coding issues. In conjunction with this process you are a member of the Data Quality Management/Information Technology Boards and contribute to the Annual Plan working group for Military Sickcall."

For Officer of the Quarter, Lieutenant Todd Griffin from the OB/GYN clinic was selected. To explain his selection, his citation reads as: "An outstanding Obstetric and

Gynecology Surgeon, you display exceptional medical skills and professionalism and are an inspiration to your peers. You surpassed all the expectations of a Naval Officer and continue to shine as a role model and team player. Your commitment to you patients was instrumental in putting the Gynecology Clinic of Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms in the top 10 percent of all clinics in the health care system for quality patient care. This clinic was recognized for "Outstanding Medical Care" by the Department of Defense, largely due to your comprehensive expertise. Despite severe staffing shortages, you creatively adjusted workload distribution and streamlined patient processes to assure no decrement of patient services or access to care. The ultimate team player, you pitched in to provide increased support to the Department Head, substantially increasing you own workload at a great personal sacrifice."



Lt. Todd Griffin

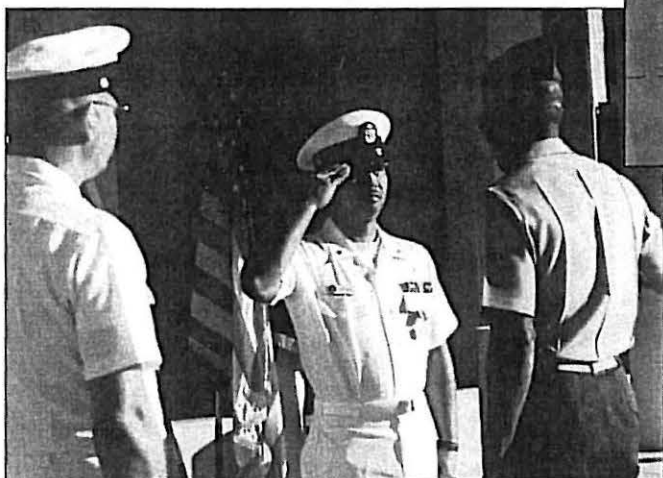
Volunteer of the Quarter was awarded to Jean Basham, for her dedication and time with the Red Cross volunteer Program. Her citation reads as follows: "Your enthusiasm, devotion, and cheerful attitude contributed significantly to the Outpatient Medical Record Division making it possible for the command to support the medical record needs of 18,00 patients and over 50 providers. Your weekly duties have included sorting and filing over 300 medical documents and incorporating 100 of the new "Adult Preventative and Chronic Care" flowsheets into medical records. These accomplishments have positively affected the outpatient record office during a staffing shortage. A team player in every sense of the word, you helped the hospital provide quality medical care to out patients."

## Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms Hard Chargers...

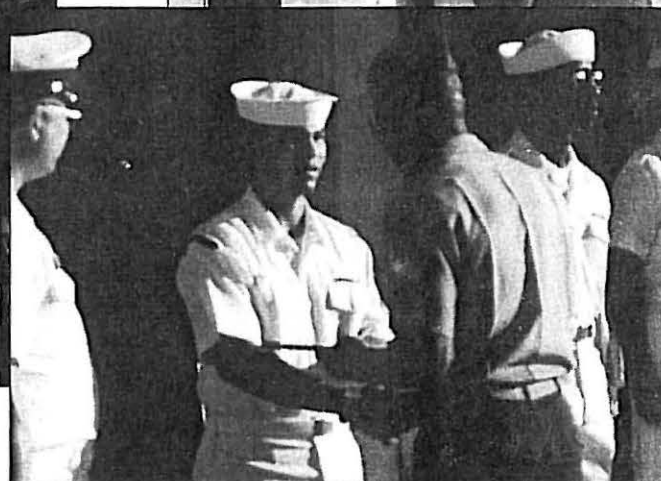


*Senior Chief Beverly Maners, left, receives her shadow box upon her retirement.*

*Lt. Nicki Baker, right, receives a Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal. HMC Paranal, below, receives a Navy Commendation Medal.*



*Chief Hernandez, above, receives a Navy Marines Corps Achievement Medal.*



*Petty Officer 1st Class Washington, above, receives a Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Hospitalman Santos, left, receives a Letter of Appreciation.*



## More Hard Chargers...



*Outhouse race team, above receive Letters of Appreciation. Staff members at right, receive Letters of Appreciation for American Red Cross volunteer time.*



*Chief Hernandez heads up the Command Colorguard team, above. Red Cross Volunteers are honored at left.*



*Mike Holdridge is honored at left, and Lt. Cmdr. Pearce is promoted at right.*



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